

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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71

ACTION EB-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 ARA-06 NEA-07 IO-01 DODE-00

NSCE-00 NSC-05 CIAE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 INR-05 PM-03

L-01 EA-06 SP-02 AF-04 SAM-01 SAJ-01 IGA-01 AS-01

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R 060200Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2001

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CINCPAC

CINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 0107

LIMDIS

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD CINCEUR ALSO FOR POLAD

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EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PDEV

SUBJECT: TRIAGE IN THE THIRD WORLD

REF: MANILA 17961

1. THE IDEA PUT FORWARD REFTEL SEEM TO FIT IN VERY WELL WITH PRESENT U.S. POLIC AS REINFORCED BY THE SECRETARY AT THE SEPTEMBER 1975 UNGA SPECIAL SESSION. THE PRINCIPAL DIFFERENCE OR ELABORATION APPEARS TO BE THE SUGGESTION THAT WE SHOULD NOT ONLY CONTINUE TO DIVIDE COUNTRIES INTO VARIOUS CATEGORIES - AS HAS LONG BEEN DONE EXPLICITLY OR IMPLICITLY - BUT THAT WE SHOULD MAKE OUR HERETOFORE DE FACTO POLICY A PUBLIC ONE TO OUR PROBABLE EMBARRASSMENT AND THAT OF THE EEC (WHICH WE DOUBT WOULD AGREE TO SUCH A PUBLIC POSITION), FOR EXAMPLE, AND TO THAT OF THE "BASKET CASES."

2. WE BELIEVE THAT TO BE TOO PUBLICLY SPECIFIC REGARDING WHOM WE SHALL OR SHALL NOT HELP TEND TO TIE USG HANDS AND CLOSE OUT "TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY." WE RECALL THAT NUMBER OF YEARS AGO THE U.S. CHOSE SEVERAL AFRICAN COUNTRIES AS "SHOWCASE" COUNTRIES (ETHIOPIA, TUNISIA, ETC.) WITH ASSURED FUTURES, WHOSE DEVELOPMENT WOULD LATER SPREAD TO THEIR POORER NEIGHBORS. REGRETTABLY, ALMOST NONE HAVE BECOME "SHOWCASES" IN THE DEVELOPMENT SENSE AND THE U.S. HAS HAD EITHER TO CONTINUE PROPPING UP ITS CHOSEN FEW, OR HAS SHIFTED ITS EFFORTS TO MORE VIABLE AREA OF AFRICA AND THE WORLD.

3. REFTEL CITES PEKING AND MOSCOW AS HAVING MADE THEIR PRAGMATIC DECISIONS. WHY, THEN, SHOULD THEY ACCEPT OUR GIFT OF ALL THE BASKET CASES AS IMAGINED IN PARA 5A REFTEL, OR CEDE ALL "POTENTIAL ACHIEVERS" TO THE WEST?

4. IN CONCLUSION, WHILE CONCURRING THAT U.S. ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE CONCENTRATED LARGELY ON "POLITICAL ACHIEVERS," WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT THIS CAN AND SHOULD BE DONE QUIETLY: WITH THE TACIT AGREEMENT OF THE EEC AND OTHERS, IF POSSIBLE, BUT WITHOUT MAKING A PUBLIC ISSUE OF IT.

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